

DIRECTIONS TO APPLY FOR MEDI-CAL

Important—Please Read

You are now eligible for a program called Presumptive Eligibility (PE). This program pays for the prenatal care services you receive from a Medi-Cal provider until you apply for Medi-Cal and your eligibility is determined. (These services do not include labor and delivery, family planning, abortion, or medical services that are not pregnancy related.)

Your PE Card

The PE Identification card you are given today can be used to pay for your prenatal care. Please give this card to your prenatal care providers (doctors, midwives, pharmacists, etc.) to pay for your services. **Do not** destroy this card until your PE period ends or you are told you can get Medi-Cal and receive a Benefits Identification Card (BIC) in the mail.

Medi-Cal Application

In order to continue getting PE, you must apply for Medi-Cal. Please fill in the attached Medi-Cal application and file it at your local county welfare office. Your provider will tell you which office to use. If you need help filling in the attached Medi-Cal application, ask your provider or the county welfare office for help. You **must apply** for Medi-Cal in order to continue your PE coverage. If you **do not** apply, your PE coverage **will end** the last day of next month.

If You Want AFDC

Please note: if you wish to apply for AFDC, that will also meet the PE requirement to apply for Medi-Cal. However, do not complete the attached Medi-Cal application. Instead, show the Medi-Cal application to the receptionist at the county welfare office and ask to apply for AFDC. The county welfare office will give you the correct forms and set up an appointment.

If You've Already Applied

If you have already applied for Medi-Cal or AFDC, please do not complete the attached Medi-Cal application. Instead, please contact your county worker, tell him/her you are on PE and ask how best to return the Medi-Cal application, which has your proof of pregnancy on it.

Your PE Continuing

If you do apply for Medi-Cal (or AFDC), your PE will continue until the County decides if you can get Medi-Cal or AFDC.

Once the County decides if you can get Medi-Cal or AFDC, the County will tell you. If you can get Medi-Cal or AFDC, you will get your BIC in the mail. Please destroy your PE card and use your BIC from that point on. If you can't get Medi-Cal or AFDC, your PE card will be good until the end of the month in which you are told by the County that you cannot get Medi-Cal or AFDC. Then the PE coverage will end.

NOTE: *If you have an urgent medical need other than pregnancy, or if you wish to apply for other personal emergency programs, please contact the county welfare office nearest where you live.*

**REMEMBER — EARLY PRENATAL CARE WILL HELP YOU HAVE A HEALTHY BABY.
PLEASE KEEP YOUR APPOINTMENTS AND TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF.**

TURN PAGE OVER TO GET MORE INFORMATION

INFORMATION ABOUT THE MEDI-CAL APPLICATION FORM

WHAT WE MEAN WHEN WE SAY ON THE FORM:

- You, Anyone, Everyone: this means any and all persons who live in your home and are applying for Medi-Cal. When we need more information about the other persons in your home, we will ask.
- Restricted Medi-Cal Benefits: emergency and pregnancy related care only.
- Income—money received or expected, such as:
 - earnings, welfare, child support, SSI or Social Security, pension or retirement payments;
 - Unemployment Insurance (UIB), State Disability (SDI), Veteran's (VA), or other disability payments;
 - strike funds, payments from roomers, school grants and loans;
 - cash gifts, cash winnings, any other cash payments.
- Liquid Resources—other money, such as:
 - cash on hand, uncashed checks, money in checking accounts, savings accounts, or savings certificates;
 - trust deeds, notes receivable, stocks or bonds, etc.

OTHER THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW:

- If on purpose you give wrong facts or don't report all facts or situations which affect eligibility, you may have to pay back benefits you received and/or your benefits may be stopped. You may also have to pay fines and/or go to jail/prison.

- **SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER**

Every person requesting Medi-Cal who has a Social Security number must provide it to the county welfare department. U.S. citizens, U.S. nationals and aliens claiming to be in a satisfactory immigration status who do not have a Social Security number must apply for one and provide it to the county welfare department. Aliens who are not in a satisfactory immigration status and who do not have a Social Security number can still get restricted Medi-Cal if they meet all eligibility requirements.

- We computer match Social Security numbers against records from tax, welfare, employment, the Social Security Administration, and other agencies to be sure you are reporting all your income and resources. We may check out differences with employers, banks, and/or others. We also use the facts you give us to determine eligibility, benefits, and to be sure that you are not getting aid in more than one case.

- **PROOF OF PREGNANCY**

Please note that the bottom portion of your Medi-Cal application *is* your **proof of pregnancy**, completed by your provider. This is important; you need to show this to the county welfare worker to prove you are pregnant and receive benefits. Please take care not to lose the Medi-Cal application.

STATE HEARINGS

If you have a complaint about the Medi-Cal application process, try to resolve it with the County. If you can't resolve it, you may call or write one of the following offices:

Los Angeles

107 South Broadway, Room 7125
Los Angeles, CA 90012
Phone (213) 620-4385

Sacramento

744 P Street, MS 16-23
Sacramento, CA 95814
Phone 1-800-952-5253
or TDD 1-800-952-8349
(for hearing impaired and deaf)

If you think any action taken by the County is wrong, you can ask for a State Hearing by writing to your local county welfare department office or by calling the phone numbers listed above. You must ask for a hearing and tell why you want one within 90 days of the action.